

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

EB-11 AID-20 COME-00 SPM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 OIC-04 /220 W

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UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 5983

E. OO. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC, SPOP

SUBJ: POPULATION COMMISSION: REPORTS ON PROGRESS

OF WORK AND TWO-YEAR AND MEDIUM-TERM

PROGRAMMES OF WORK OF POPULATION DIVISION

BEGIN SUMMARY. POPULATION COMMISSION REVIEWED PROGRESS
OF WORK OF UN POPULATION DIVISION AND DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS. IN GENERAL, PAST TWO
YEARS' WORK WAS WELL RECEIVED ALTHOUGH VARIOUS
DELEGATIONS COMPLAINED THAT LATENESS OF DOCUMENTATION
AND INSUFFICIENT ANALYSES AND EVALUATION IN PROGRESS
REPORTS PREVENTED MEMBERS FROM FULLY COMPREHENDING
INTERRELATIONSHIPS AND ACTUAL PROGRESS TOWARDS
OBJECTIVES IN POPULATION FIELD. ALTHOUGH MANY DIVERSE
PROJECTS WERE LISTED IN DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE TO
COMMISSION, LACK OF QUANTIFICATION AND FLOW CHARTS
OBSCURED WHATEVER COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES, IF ANY,
NOW ACTUALLY OCCURRING WITHIN UN SYSTEM.. SIMILAR
DEFICIENCIES IN DOCUMENT SETTING FORTH FUTURE WORK
PROGRAM AND LATENESS IN DOCUMENTATION COMMENTED ON BY
NUMEROUS DELEGATIONS. SEVERAL DELEGATIONS CALLED FOR
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THOROUGH REVIEW OF WORK PROGRAM AFTER THE WORLD

POPULATION CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY

1. PROGRESS OF WORK (ITEM 7 OF AAGENDA) OUTLINED IN E/CN.9/289 AND DETAILED IN E/CN.9/283 REVIEWED BY POPULATION DIVISION DIRECTOR TABAH. HE NOTED THAT HEAVY BURDEN OF PREPARING FOR WPC, SERVICING UN BODIES AND TECHNICAL BACKSTOPPING OF FIELD PROJECTS DELAYED COMPLETION OF MUCH OF TECHNICAL STUDIES IN POPULATION DIVISION WORK PROGRAM. DIFFICULTIES IN RECRUITMENT AND EVEN SHORTAGE OF OFFICE SPACE ALSO NOTED. IN GENERAL, POPULATION COMMISSION RECEIVED TABAH'S REPORT WELL, ALTHOUGH SEVERAL SHARP CRITICISMS WERE MADE. GHANA DELEGATE

CRITICIZED PROGRESS OF UN DEMOGRAPHIC TRAINING CENTER IN ACCRA (RIPS), SPECIFICALLY LATENESS IN RECRUITMENT OF STUDENTS, POOR PERFORMANCE OF STUDENTS, LARGE NUMBER OF UN AND OTHER BODIES TO WHOM DIRECTOR MUST REPORT, LACK OF COORDINATION IN NATIONAL AND REGIONAL PROGRAMS. GHANA ALSO STRESSED NEED TO DEVELOP NATIONAL CAPABILITIES IN DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS AND QUESTIONED WHETHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO AFRICA HAS DEVELOPED THESE

CAPABILITIES.

2. USSR NOTED LARGE EXPANSION OF UN WORK IN POPULATION BUT QUESTIONED WHETHER PLANS FOR COORDINATION ARE WORKED OUT IN ADVANCE. TUNISIA NOTED LACK OF PRECISION IN PROGRESS REPORTS ON DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS AND THEREFORE DIFFICULTIES IN EVALUATION OF PROGRESS BY POPULATION COMMISSION. TUNISIA AND GHANA CORRECTED REPORT STATEMENTS ON ASSISTANCE TO THEIR COUNTRIES, AND NOTED THAT NO ASSISTANCE YET RECEIVED IN SPECIFIC AREAS. TUNISIA COMPLAINED THEY ARE STILL AWAITING RECEIPT OF INFORMATION ON YAOUNDE DEMOGRAPHIC TRAINING CENTER.

3. NETHERLANDS, BRAZIL, OTHERS NOTED REGRET AT LACK OF PROGRESS IN MORTALITY STUDIES. BRAZIL COMPLAINED ABOUT STATEMENTS IN MANILA SEMINAR REPORT ON BRAZILIAN POPULATION POLICY. PROTESTED THAT SUCH STATEMENTS ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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INFRINGEMENT ON NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY. DANISH DELEGATE REFUTED THIS NOTION.

4. USSR, TUNISIA EMPHASIZED NEED FOR STUDIES ON SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFLUENCES ON POPULATION FACTORS. COMMITTEE FROM COORDINATION OF NATIONAL RESEARCH IN DEMOGRAPHY (CICRED) REPRESENTATIVE NOTED THAT THIS RESPONSIBILITY HAS BEEN GIVEN TO CICRED TO BE ACCOMPLISHED BY MEANS OF

INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY MONOGRAPHS, BUT THAT AD HOC COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS TO DESIGN THESE STUDIES HAS NOT YET BEEN CONVENED.

5. UNITED KINGDOM AND U. S. A. ASKED FOR MORE EVALUATION AND ANALYSIS IN FUTURE PROGRESS REPORTS; WITH MORE SPECIFICATION ON EFFORTS AND THEIR RESULTS. MORE QUANTIFICATION REQUESTED IN FUTURE REPORTS.

6. YSSR STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF POPULATION DIVISION DOING FUNDAMENTAL WORK ON POPULATION TRENDS AND QUESTIONED NEED FOR POPULATION DIVISION TO WORK IN AREA OF POPULATION POLICY AND OPERATIONAL AREAS AT EXPENSE OF BASIC DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH. EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT WORK ON POPULATION POLICY SHOULD BE DONE BY INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES.

7. U. S. NOTED SLOWNESS IN DEVELOPMENT OF INTER-DISCIPLINARY TRAINING PLANS AND FAILURE TO WORK ON WORLD STUDY OF EXISTING TRAINING FACILITIES. INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE TO WORK ON THIS QUESTION RECOMMEND BY POPULATION COMMISSION IN NOVEMBER 1971 NOT CONVENED UNTIL EARLY 1973. POPULATION DIVISION NOTED THAT SURVEY OF TRAINING FACILITIES HAS NOW BEEN BEGUN BY CONSULTANT.

8. TABAH STATED THAT HE SHARED U. S. CONCERN ABOUT STARTING INTERDISCIPLINARY TRAINING WITHOUT SURVEY OF EXISTING FACILITIES AND NOTED THAT ONLY A SHORT-TERM COURSE IS BEING PLANNED IN LATIN AMERICA, WHILE LONG-TERM COURSE IN ASIA IS STILL IN EXPLORATORY STAGE. TABAH

AGREED WITH U. S. AND U. K. ON NEED FOR MORE EVALUATION AND ANALYSIS IN FUTURE REPORTS ON WORK PROGRESS AND UNCLASSIFIED

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COORDINATION.

9. UNFPA DEPUTY DIRECTOR GILLE REPORTED ON OCTOBER 1973 MEETING OF INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE ON INTERDISCIPLINARY TRAINING. COMMITTEE AGREED THAT PURPOSE OF LONG-

TERM TRAINING WOULD BE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONNEL IN ACTION PROGRAMS AND THAT SUCH TRAINING WOULD BEGIN AT SUBREGIONAL LEVEL. COMMITTEE AGREED THAT ALTHOUGH INITIALLY SHORT-TERM TRAINING WOULD BE AT REGIONAL

LEVEL ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE WOULD BE FOR TRAINING AT NATIONAL LEVEL. PROPOSAL FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A TOTAL TRAINING SCHEME WAS PRESENTED TO THE COMMITTEE BUT WAS FOUND TO BE UNACCEPTABLE. NEXT SESSION WOULD BE IN FEBRUARY

1974.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

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10. GHANA AND USSR HAD ASKED ABOUT DELAY IN WORK ON ILO PROJECT ON DEMOGRAPHIC ASPECTS OF MANPOWER. THIS PROJECT WAS RECOMMENDED AS A FIRST PRIORITY PROJECT BY THE 16TH SESSION OF THE POPULATION COMMISSION. ILO REPRESENTATIVE STATED THAT UNFPA HAD NOT GRANTED FUNDS FOR THIS PROJECT. UNFPA DEPUTY DIRECTOR GILLE INDICATED THAT UNFPA HAD DECIDED TO DEFER THIS REQUEST BECAUSE THEY CONSIDERED THIS ACTIVITY WAS A REGULAR RESPONSIBILITY AT UN POPULATION DIVISION AND ILO AND THEREFORE SHOULD BE FUNDED FROM REGULAR BUDGETS. UNFPA ALSO NOTED THAT THEY HAD GRANTED U. S. \$1.5 MILLION TO ILO'S WORLD EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM AND HAS REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL \$1.2 MILLION. ILO REPRESENTATIVE NOTED THAT MONEY GIVEN TO WORLD EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM DOES NOT COME TO ILO'S RESEARCH AND PLANNING DEPARTMENT WHICH WOULD HAVE TO DO THEE STUDY UNDER DISCUSSION.

1. PROGRAM OF WORK (ITEM 8 OF AGENDA) INTRODUCED BY TABAH WHO SAID FUTURE ACTIVITIES LOOKED TO ENLARGING VIEW OF POPULATION DIVISION AND LESSENED EMPHASIS ON

BASIC DEMOGRAPHIC WORK. HE LOOKED FORWARD TO A TRANS-
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DISSCIPLINARY APPROACH, ANDD INTEGRATED FIELD OF WORK.
DEMMOGRAPHIC TRAINING AND RESEARCH CENTERS ALSO ARE
MOVING IN THIS DIRECTION. HE NOTED NEEED TOO MONITOR
ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND POPULATION RELATIONSHIPS.
HE ALSO LOOKED FORWARD TO HAVING POPULATION DIVISION
PLAY LAGEER ROLE IN SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF WORLD
FERTTILITY SURVEY, INCLUDING ANALYSIS. HE EXPRESSED
BELIEF THAT USEFULNESS OF SIMULATION MODEL FOR DEMOGRAPHIC
RRESEARCH STILL UNCLEAR AND THAT ONLY POPULATTION DIVISION
ACTIVITY ON MODDELS WOULD BE TO CONVENNE A MEETING OF
PEOPLE WORKING IN THIS FIELD. TABBAH LOOKED FORWARD TO
MORE WORK ON MORTALITY AND MIGRATION WHICH HE REALIZED
HAVE BEEN NEGLECTED IN PAST.

12. SWEDEN (CARL WAHREN) NOTED MEED TO REEVALUATE WORK
PROGRAM AFTER WORL POPULATIOON CONFERENCE. BECAUSE OF
DELAYS IN PREVIOUSLY AGREED UPON WORK HE BELIEVED THEY
SHOOULD BE GIVEN FIIRST PRIORITY. SWEDEN BELIEVED IT WAS
URGENT TO ESTABLISH MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH CENTERS
IN COUNTRIES WITH LARGE-SCALE POPULATION PROGRAMS. ALSO
FELT POPULATION POLICY WAS IMPORTANT FIELD OF STUDY, AS
DID DANISH DELEGATE.

13. GHANA FELT COMMISSION NEEDED TO KNOW WHAT WORK
POPULATION DIVISION COULD CARRY OUT WITH THEIR CURRENT
RESOURCES AND WANTED INDICATION OF PRIORITIES IN
WORK PROGRAM.

14. POPULATION DIVISION DEPUTY-DIRECTOR CABELLO
REVEALED FULL DETAILS ON BUDGETARY RESOURCES FOR WORK
PROGRAM HAS ALREADY BEEN SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL TO
GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THAT UNDER NEW PROCEDURES
FUNCTIONAL COMMISSION'S RESSPOSIBILITY IS LIMITED TO
ADVISING ECOSOC ON BROAD OBJECTIVES AND APPROACHES
WHICH THEY WOULD WANT THE SECRETARIAT TO PURSUE. UNDER
THE NEW SYSTEM THE 1974-1975 ACTIVITIES OF POPULATION
DIVISION ARE ALREADY PLANNED AND THE RESOURCES ALREADY
REQUESTED. THE 1976-1979 BUDGET CYCLE STARTS IN 1974.
AND THEREFORE THE SECRETARIAT WOULD NEED TO HAVE
RECOOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTUURE WORK BY FEBRUARY 1974.

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15. NETHERLANDS SUPPORTED NEED FOR FLEXIBILITY IN WORK PROGRAM SO AS TO BE ABLE TO FULLY CONSIDER NEEDS RESULTING FROM WORLD POPULATION CONFERENCE.

16. U. S. NOTED HEAVY WORKLOAD IMPOSED ON POPULATION DIVISION BY SERVICE FUNCTIONS, PREPARATIONS FOR WPC, AND TECHNICAL BACKSTOPPING OF FIELD PROGRAMS. U. S. STATED, HOWEVER, THAT DELEGATION FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND FULLY OVER-ALL PROGRAM BEING RECOMMENDED, DUE TO LACK OF QUANTIFICATION IN REPORT REGARDING MAN-HOURS OF WORK REQUIRED FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS, COSTS, CALENDAR TIMING, AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE. U. S. EXPRESSED BELIEF SECRETARIAT SHOULD EMPHASIZED ITS TRADITIONAL ROLES IN DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS AND ANALYSIS AND CAUTIONED MOVING INTO OTHER FIELDS OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH WITHOUT CAREFUL CONSIDERATION OF STAFF RESOURCES AND WORK ALREADY BEING DONE BY OTHER UN INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS. IN VIEW OF LATENESS OF THE TIME IN THE BUDGET CYCLE OF THE SECRETARIAT U. S. SUGGESTED POPULATION COMMISSION APPROVE CONTINUANCE OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TWO-YEAR WORK PROGRAM FOR 1974-1975. U. S. AGREED WITH SUGGESTION OF OTHER DELEGATIONS (SWEDEN, U. K.) THAT MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAM MUST REMAIN FLEXIBLE SO THAT REQUIREMENTS COMING FROM WPC MAY BE FULLY MET.

117. DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF UNFPA, GILLE, POINTED OUT SEVERAL DEFICIENCIES OF WORK PROGRAM DOCUMENT. HE INDICATED TABLE ON PROJECTED COSTS INADEQUATE AS THERE WAS NO INDICATION FROM WHERE FUNDS WERE COMING. GILLE ALSO NOTED INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT WOULD NOT INCREASE AS MUCH AS SHOWN IN TABLE IN E/CN.9/283. WITH RECENT ECOSOC DECISION TO HAVE COUNTRY PROJECTS EXECUTED BY METHOD COUNTRY FELT MOST EFFICIENT, GILLE DOUBTED RISE IN COSTS OF THIS PHASE OF SECRETARIAT'S WORK PROGRAM.

18. GILLE OBJECTED TO USE OF POPULATION COMMISSION AS FORUM FOR PERSUADING UNFPA TO APPROVE SPECIFIC PROJECT PROPOSALS AS WAS BEING PURSUED WITH REGARD TO ILO PROJECT ON DEMOGRAPHIC ASPECTS OF MANPOWER. THE PLACE FOR SUCH SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS IS THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNDP. GILLE REITERATED UNCLASSIFIED

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UNFPA POLICY OF NOT FUNDING NORMAL ACTIVITIES OF UN AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES CONFORMS TO DESIRES OF DONORS.

19. POPULATION DIVISION DIRECTOR TABAH AND DEPUTY CABELO INDICATED THAT BUDGET PROPOSAL WITH MUCH OF THE SPECIFICATION REQUESTED BY U. S. AND OTHER DELEGATIONS HAS BEEN PREPARED AND SUBMITTED TO ECOSOC AND COULD

BE ABAILABLE TO POPULATION COMMISSION DELEGATIONS.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 09 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Reason:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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